Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
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SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
ENDGAME
PART 3 OF 4
Turtlewing Productions
Kaifuu.Com

For **Sonic** and **The Freedom Fighters**, it began with another routine mission into **Robotropolis** with the usual objective: the total defeat of the evil **Dr. Robotnik** and deliverance of their people from his tyranny. Unfortunately, their plan went wrong, due to the apparent treachery of **Sonic, The Hedgehog**, as he sent **Princess Sally** to her doom in full view of everyone.

As The Freedom Fighters attempted to deal with their grief over these past events, **King Acorn** imposed Sonic to a life sentence on the prison island known as **The Devil's Gulag**. While on route, the vehicle carrying Sonic and one other freedom fighter traitor was shot down, providing Sonic with a means to escape and attempt to clear his name.

Outraged, King Acorn dispatched his most capable warrior, **Geoffrey St. John** to hunt down the hedgehog at all costs. Accompanied by his lieutenants and a couple of **Tasmanian Devil Dogs**, St. John was soon hot on the trail, following the elusive hedgehog deep into the caverns near the crash site.

Unbeknownst to St. John or any of The Freedom Fighters, Robotnik unleashed a massive plan of treachery and deceit. It left everyone to wonder whose side anyone was on, especially when their beloved King Acorn delivered them into the hands of their greatest enemy.

While The Freedom Fighters struggle with their predicament, Sonic has been cornered right into the thunderous mouth of **Angora Falls**, without any option in sight ...

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YOU DIRTY TRAITOR! YOU DESERVE THIS AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO MY BELOVED SALLY!

THERE'S NO WAY I'LL SURVIVE THIS FALL UNLESS I START HOVERING... GOTTA TRY MY PATENTED FIGURE EIGHT!"

*FIRST SEEN IN THE CLASSIC STH #23. -- Classy Freddy

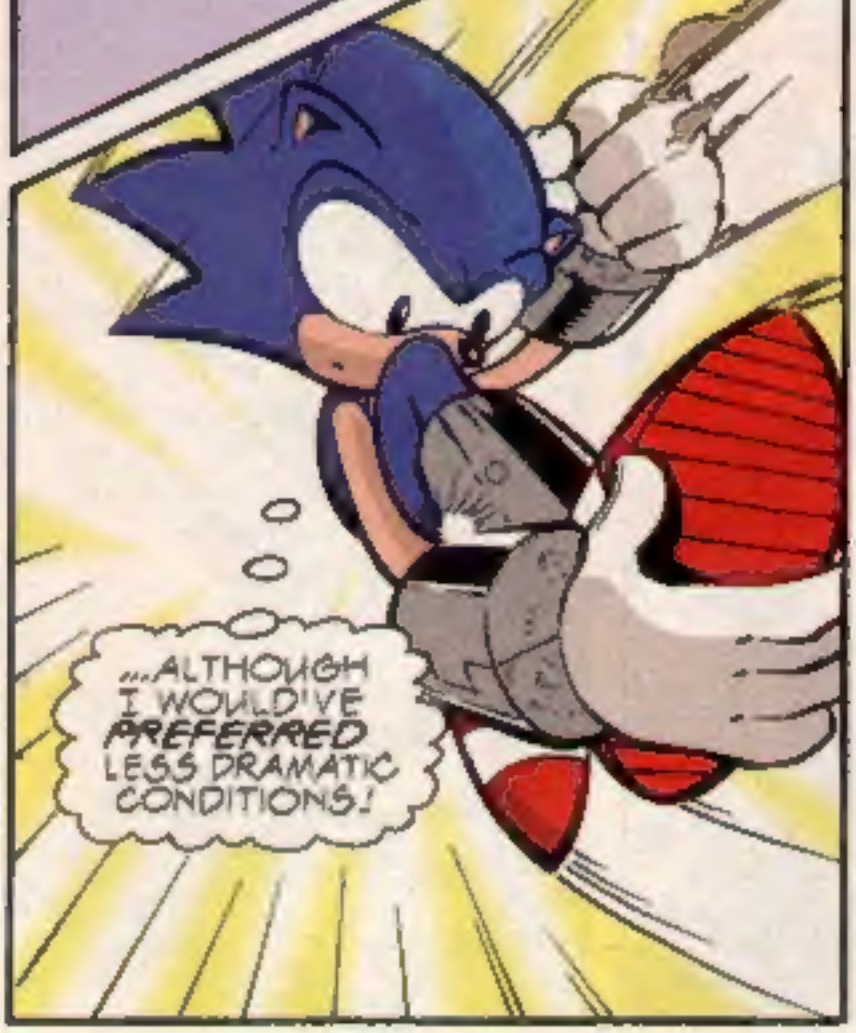
OUCH! MY LEGS ARE CRAMPING UP!

I'M MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY EXHAUSTED BY ALL THAT'S HAPPENED!

SALLY'S DEATH, THE KING'S SENTENCE, THE CRASH, RUNNING AND HIDING IN THE CAVERNS... I'M GONNA GO SPLAT!

I'VE BEEN MEANING TO TRY THIS TRICK FOR A WHILE NOW...

UNNGH!

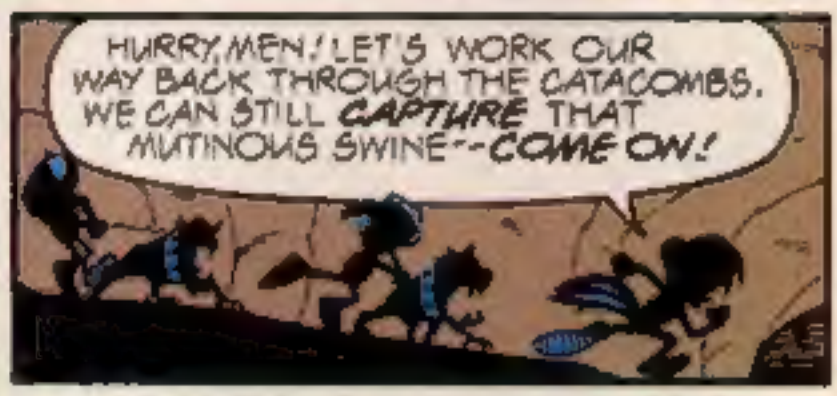

...ALTHOUGH I WOULD'VE PREFERRED LESS DRAMATIC CONDITIONS!

HERE WE GO--I SURE HOPE THIS WORKS!

YEE-HA! ALL I NEED IS A SMALL LANDSTRIP AND MY SPEED WILL GET ME BY!
WHOOIF!
THRUMF

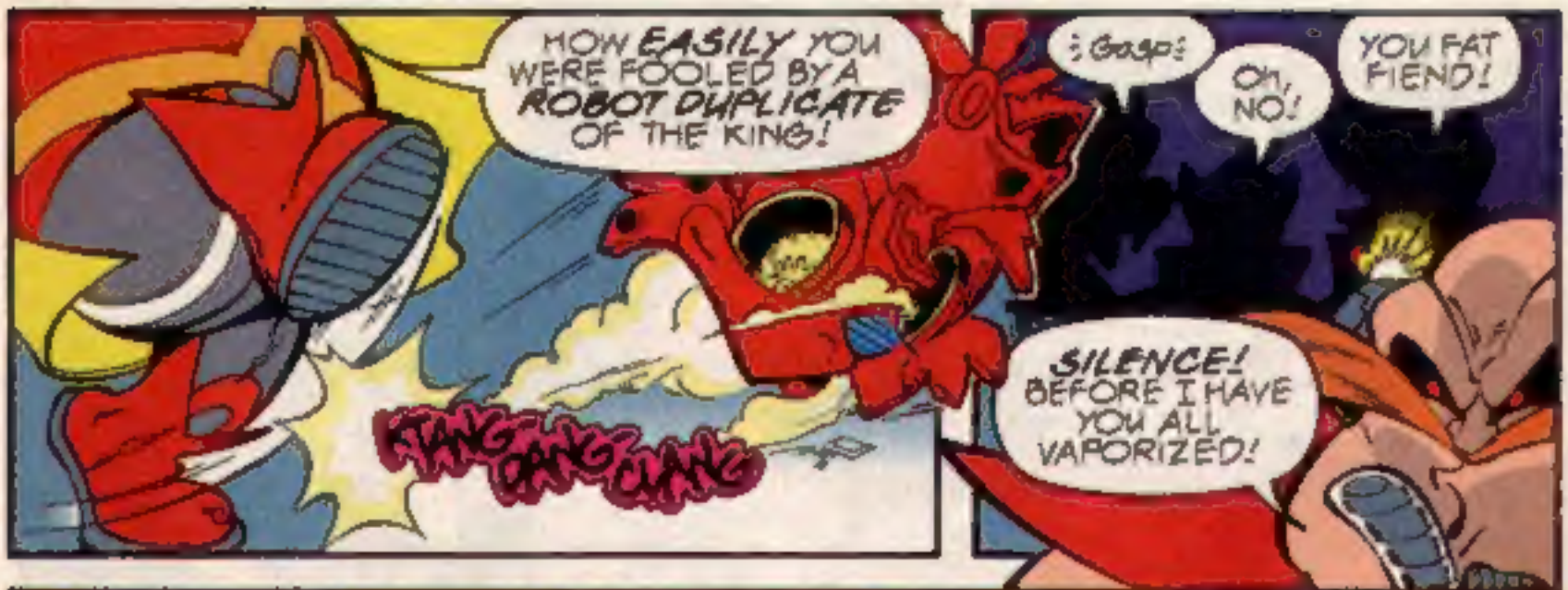
:Sniff: MUH-MUST R-REST...
Harumph!
:Cough: :Wheeze:
WHAT HAPPENED?
SONIC ESCAPED... TEMPORARILY!
GROWWR! SNARL!

HE'S DOWN THERE...ON THE RIVERBANK!

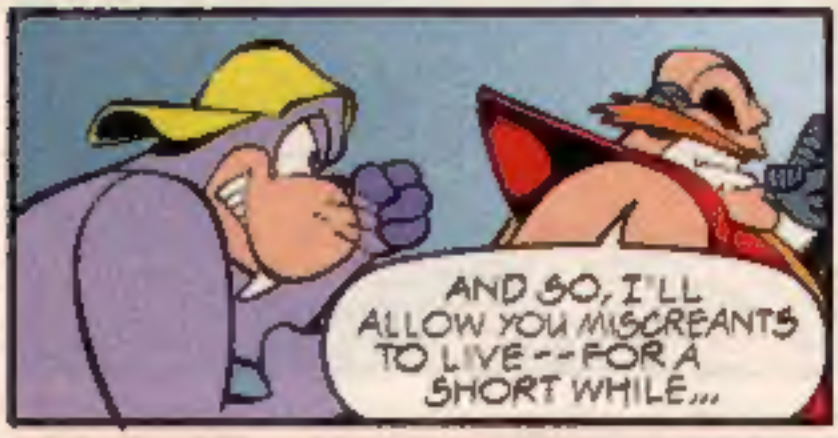

HURRY, MEN! LET'S WORK OUR WAY BACK THROUGH THE CATACOMBS. WE CAN STILL CAPTURE THAT MUTINOUS SWINE--COME ON!

GOTTA KEEP GOING...HAVE TO--ESCAPE TO PROVE--INNOCENCE...
GOTTA GET BACK TO...

--"KNOTHOLE!"
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™
HAS INDEED BETRAYED YOU!
BUT DESPITE WHAT YOU'RE ALL THINKING, KING ACORN HAS NOT!
FOR THIS IS ANYTHING BUT YOUR BELOVED SOVEREIGN...
BEEP!
WHAROOM
6


HOW EASILY YOU WERE FOOLED BY A ROBOT DUPLICATE OF THE KING!
KLANG CLANG CLANG
:Gasp:
OH, NO!
YOU FAT FIEND!
SILENCE! BEFORE I HAVE YOU ALL VAPORIZED!

AH, BUT THAT WOULD BE TOO EASY!
I'D MUCH RATHER SEE YOU PERISH ALONG WITH ALL THE REST OF THE REPULSIVE, NON-ROBOTIC RESIDENTS OF THIS PLANET!


AND SO, I'LL ALLOW YOU MISCREANTS TO LIVE -- FOR A SHORT WHILE...

...UNTIL MY LATEST AND MOST POWERFUL WEAPON OF DESTRUCTION IS FULLY FUNCTIONAL!

THEN EVERY LIVING THING ON MOBIUS WILL BE ANNIHILATED INCLUDING YOUR PRECIOUS MONARCH, WHO'S BEING ATTENDED TO AS I SPEAK...

MEANWHILE IN ROBOTROPOLIS...

I'VE DONE EVERYTHING YOUR EVIL MASTER DEMANDED...

ALMOST EVERYTHING...

NOT QUITE, Dr. QUACK. GIVE ME THE DOCUMENTATION!

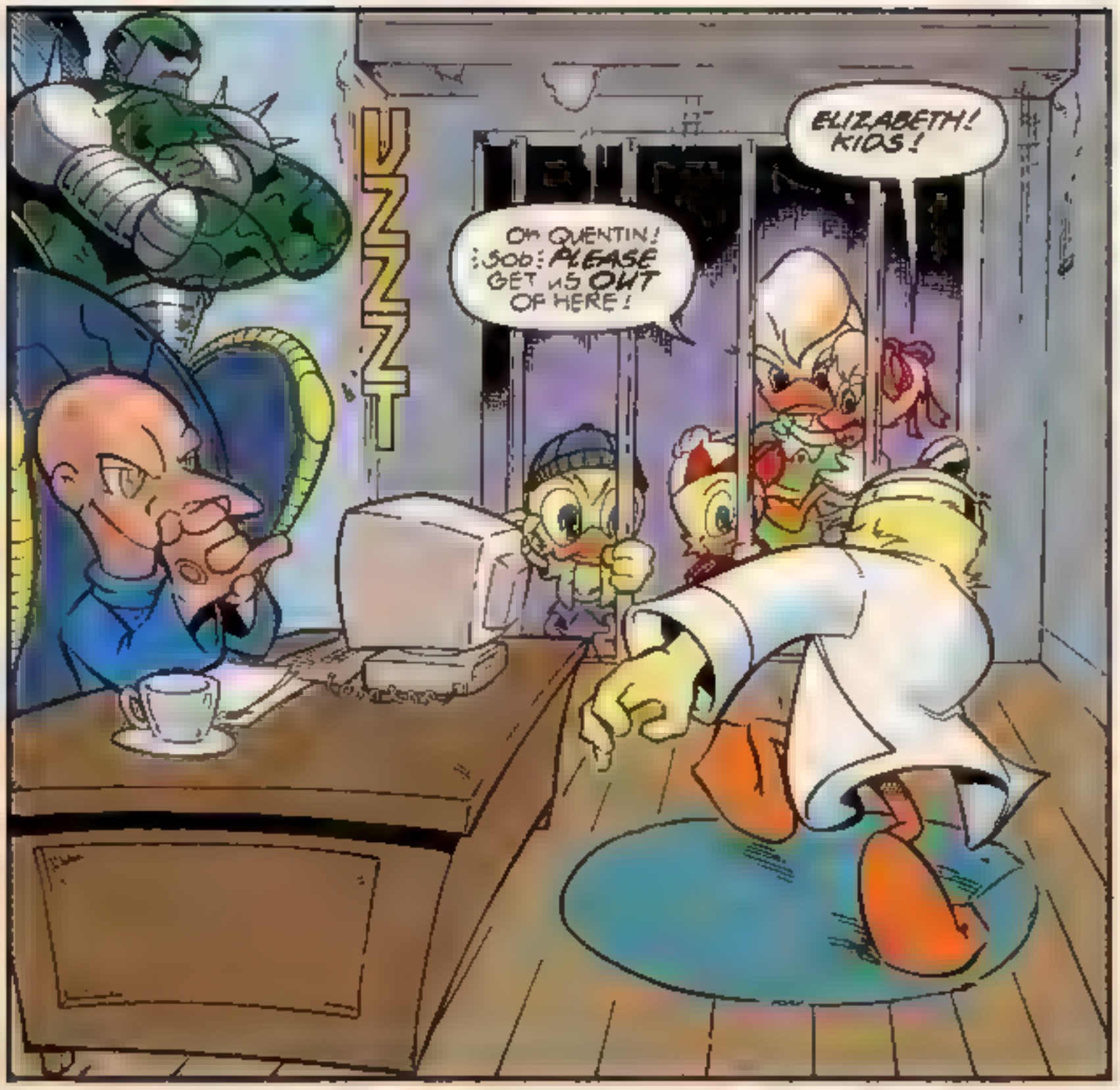
MUCH BETTER!

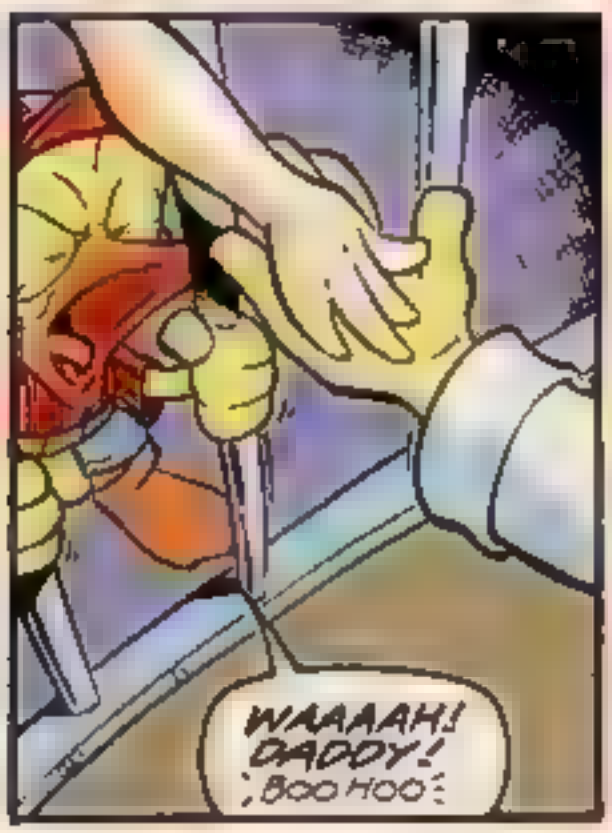
I'VE KEPT MY END OF THE BARGAIN! NOW YOU DO THE SAME!

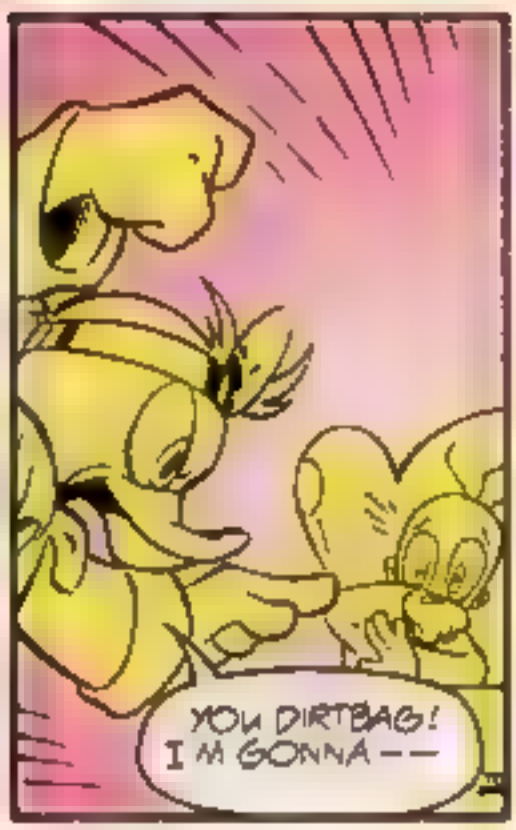
TUT, TUT, DOC...

YOUR BEDSIDE MANNERS NEED IMPROVEMENT!

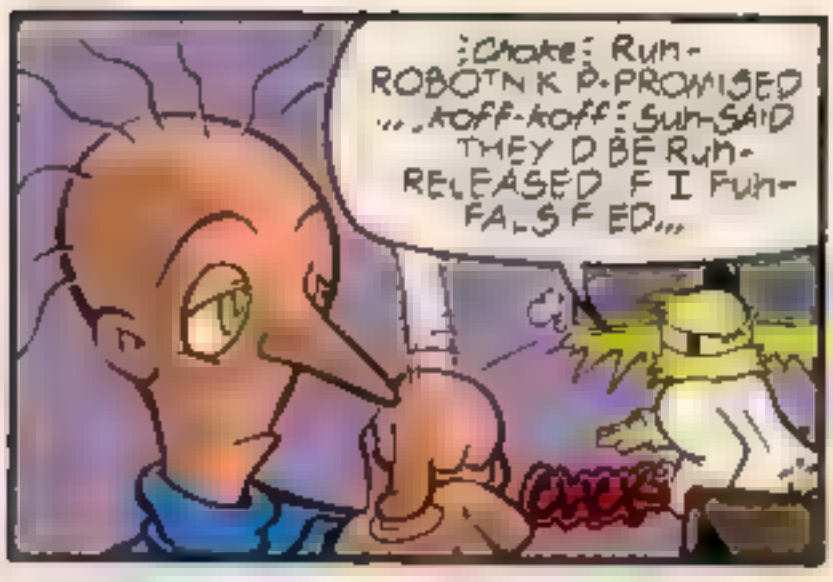
PERHAPS THIS WILL TEACH YOU SOME RESPECT!

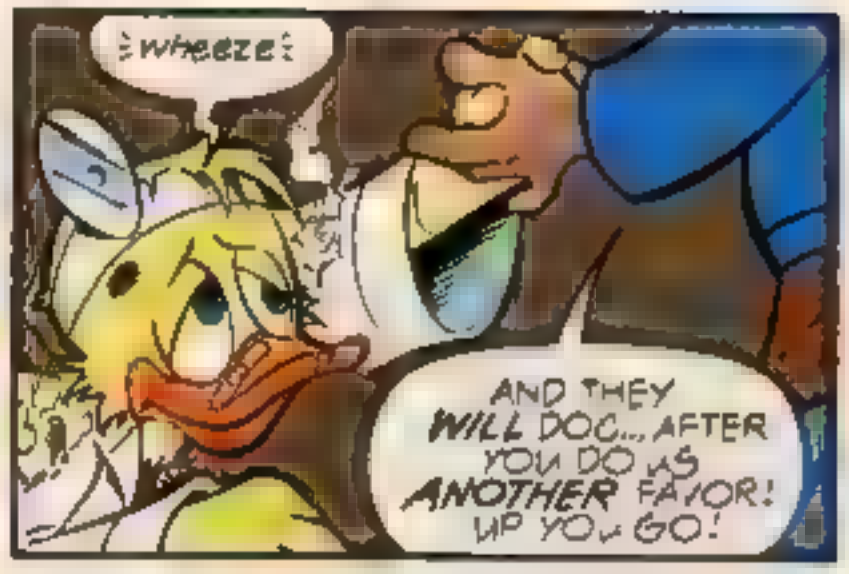

ELIZABETH! KIDS!
OH QUENTIN! (SOB) PLEASE GET US OUT OF HERE!
UNZNZ

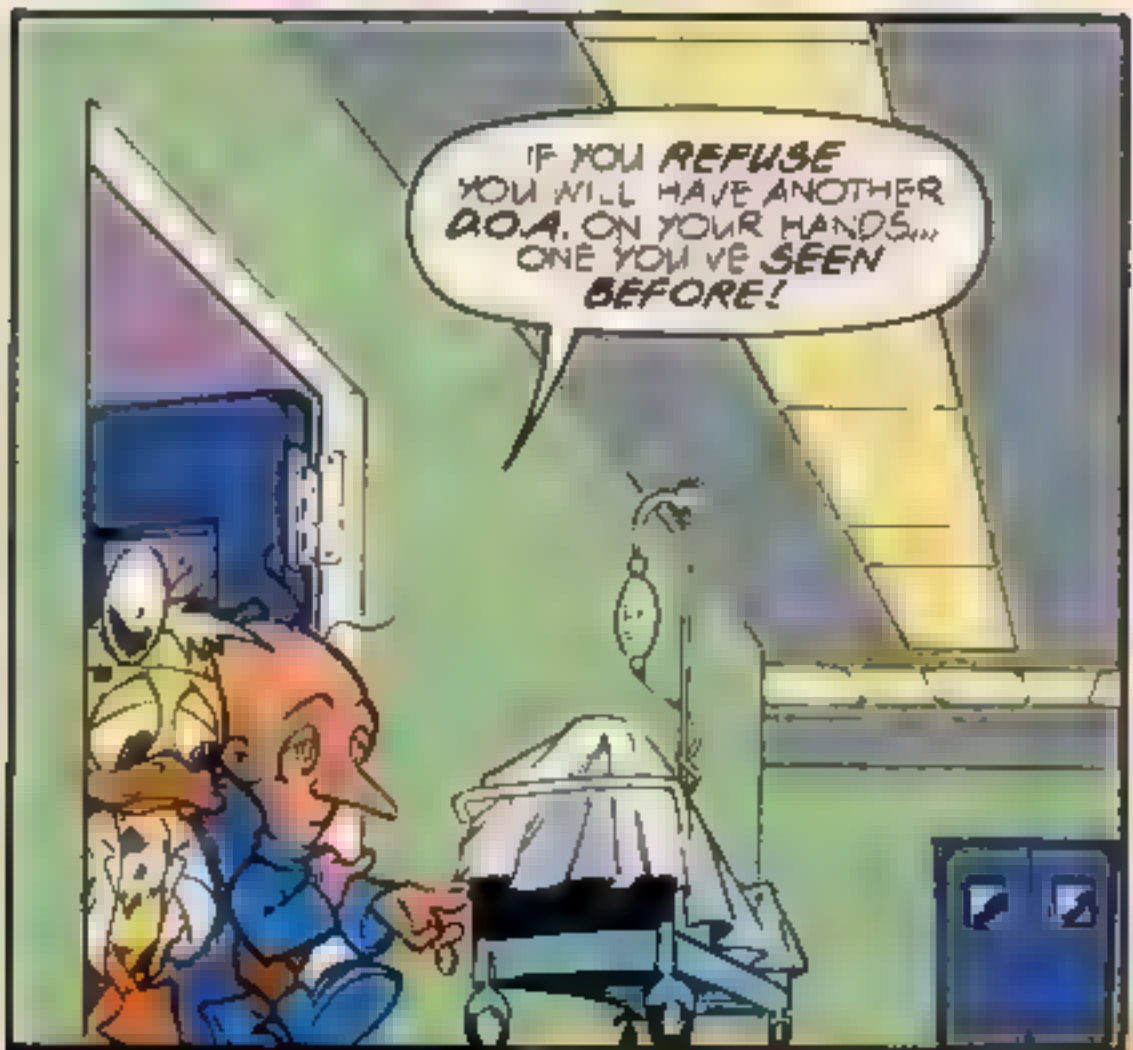

WAAAAH! DADDY! (BOO HOO)


YOU DIRTBAG! I'M GONNA --

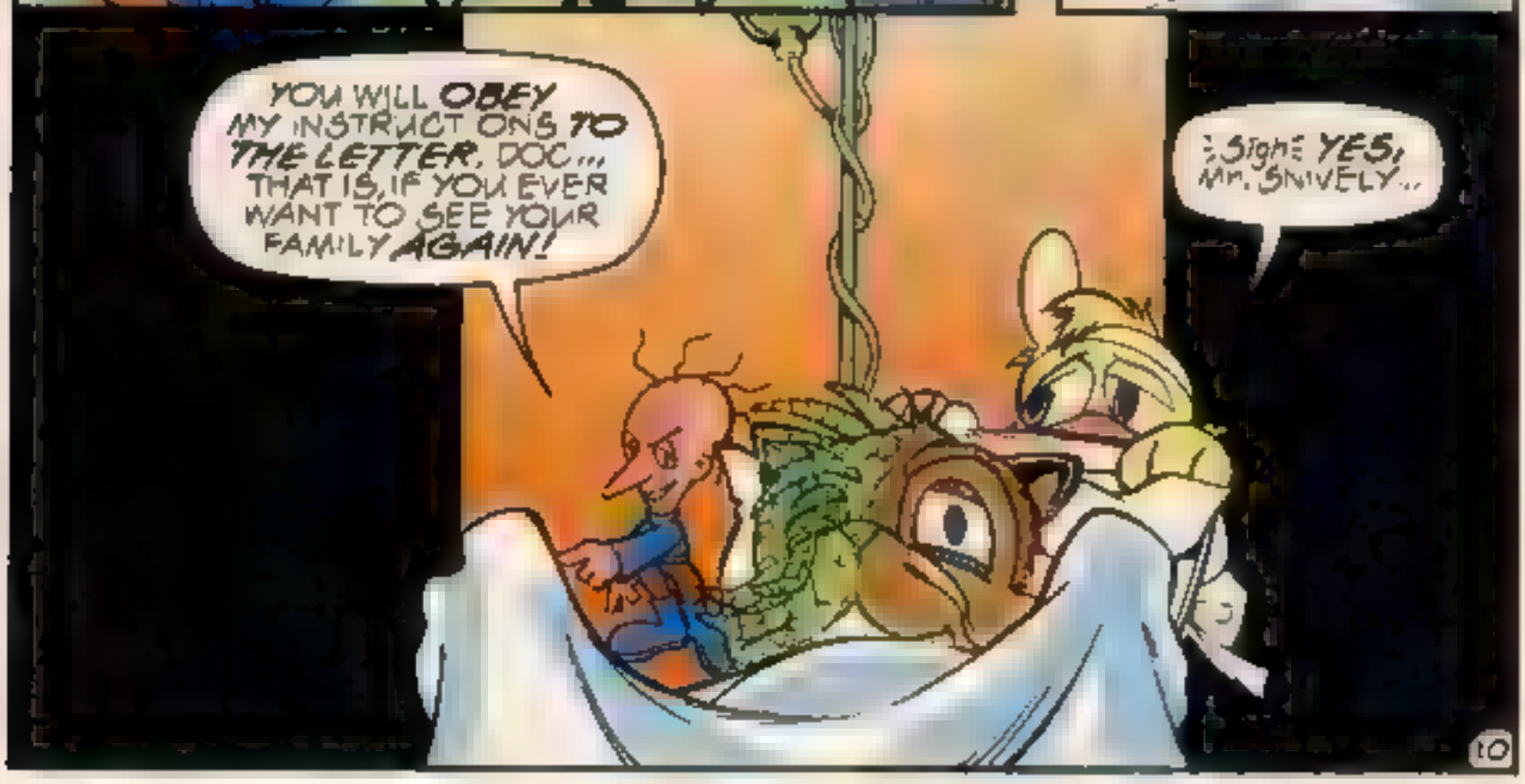
HURRGH!
SKZZZKT
NOOOO!
DADDEEEEE!


:Choke: Run-
ROBOTNIK P-PROMISED
...koff-koff: Sun-SAID
THEY D BE Run-
RELEASED F I Fun-
FA-S F ED...
CHUCK!


:wheeze:
AND THEY
WILL DOC... AFTER
YOU DO US
ANOTHER FAVOR!
UP YOU GO!


IF YOU REFUSE
YOU WILL HAVE ANOTHER
D.O.A. ON YOUR HANDS...
ONE YOU'VE SEEN
BEFORE!

YOU
REMEMBER OLD
STONEFACE
HERE, DON'T
YOU?
:Gasp:
THE
KING!


YOU WILL OBEY
MY INSTRUCTIONS TO
THE LETTER, DOC...
THAT IS, IF YOU EVER
WANT TO SEE YOUR
FAMILY AGAIN!
:Sigh: YES,
Mr. SNIVELY...

AND BACK TO SONIC...
...huff-puff... KNOTHOLE'S JUST OVER THAT--OH, WHAT'S THE USE?
I'M TOO TIRED AND THEY'RE NOT GONNA GIVE UP COMING AFTER ME!
HOW MUCH LONGER IS THIS GOING TO DRAG ON...?
"DRAG ON"--THAT'S IT!
MUUUUMMM!
Fweee
VIBRATING HIS VOCAL CHORDS AT A SPEED UNATTAINABLE BY ANY OTHER LIVING CREATURE, SONIC EMITS A HIGH-PITCHED WHISTLE--
ONE THAT CAN ONLY BE HEARD BY...
YOU CALLED?
DULCY! AH I GLAD TO SEE YOU!

YOU KNOW I'D NEVER HURT SALLY! YOU'RE THE ONLY CHANCE I'VE GOT TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE! PLEASE, DULCY!

A DRAGON CAN SENSE THE PURITY OF TRUTH SONIC... I BELIEVE YOU! WHAT CAN I DO?

YOU CAN GET ME OUT OF HERE AND FLY ME TO BUZZ-HMM-WASSOEM...

AS YOU WISH, TRUE BLUE! UP... UP...

...AND AWAAAY...

NOOO!

AAARGH! MISSED HIM BY A WHISKER!

SPLATCH!

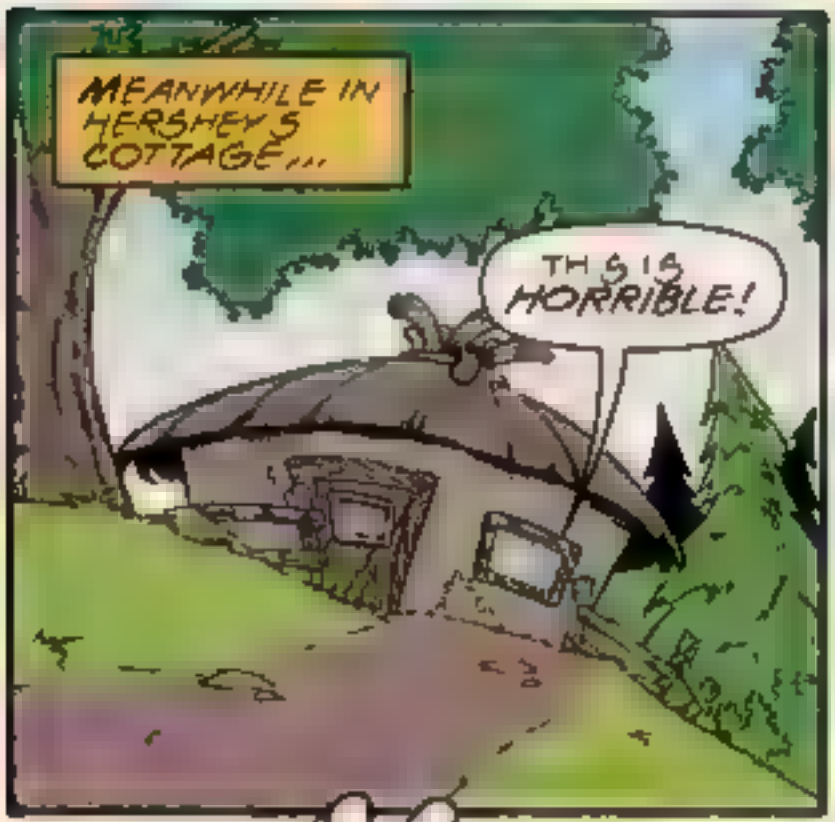
THIS ISN'T OVER HEDGEHOG! I'LL FOLLOW YOU TO THE ENDS OF MOBIUS

AND THAT WILL BE EASY TOO, BECAUSE YOU'RE STILL WEARING THE SHACKLE THAT CONTAINS MY TRACKING DEVICE.

ROWWR!

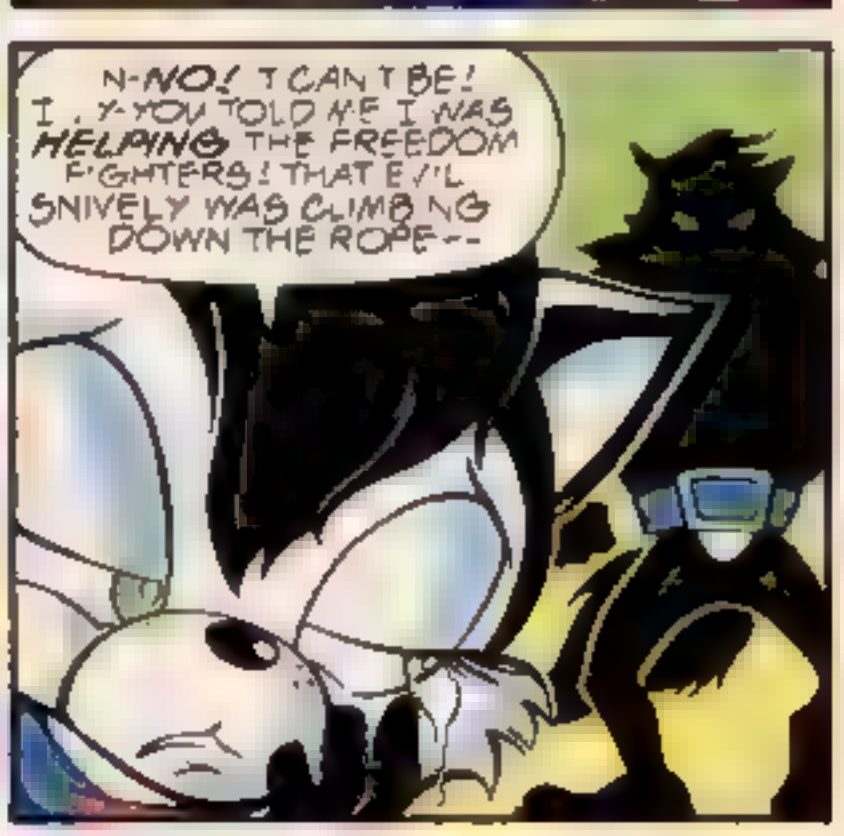
ARDDDO!

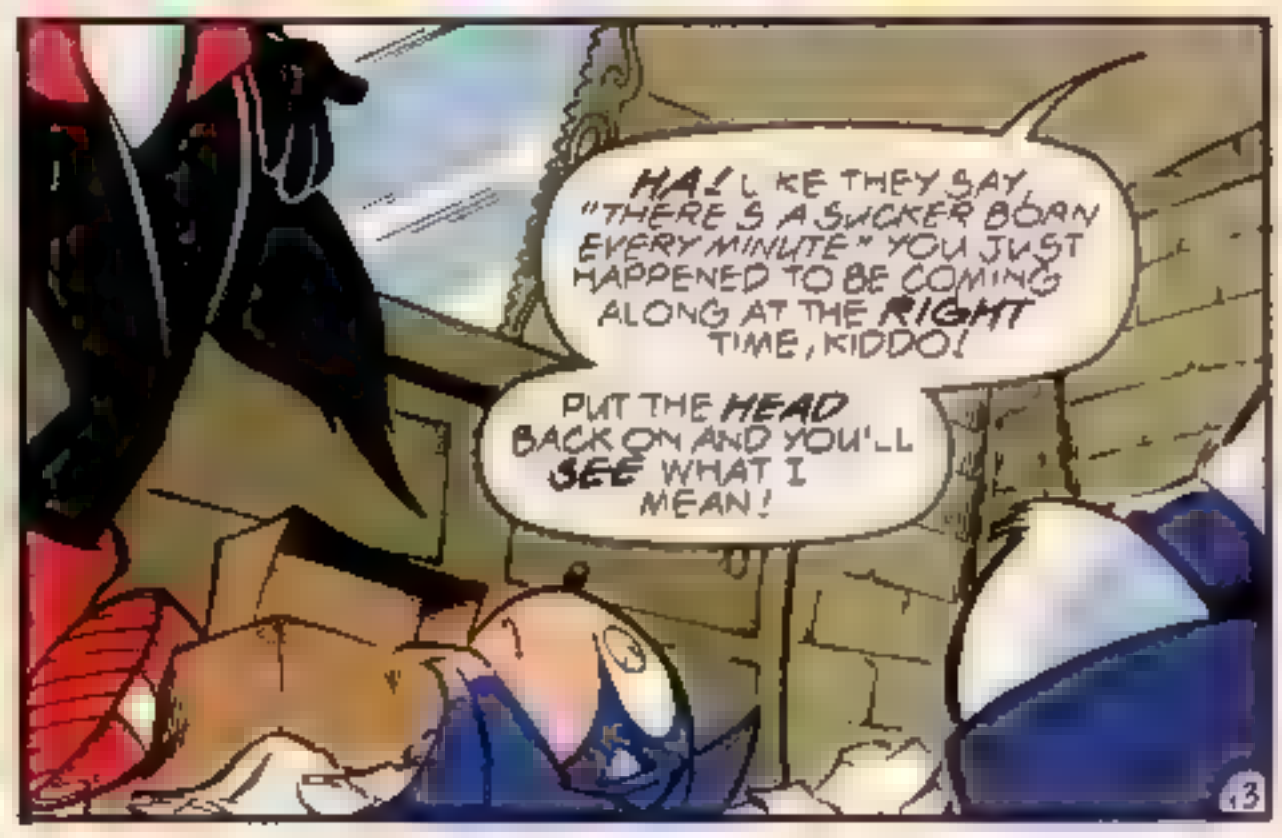
AS YOU KNOW FROM LAST SHI-KHON + al JFG


MEANWHILE IN HERSHEY'S COTTAGE...
THIS IS HORRIBLE!

AH YOU... MAKE A FINE LOOKING DUKE OF MOBIUS, DRAGO MY BOY!
DID YOU HEAR ME? THE PRINCESS WAS KILLED!

SLAP
THAT'S RIGHT, TOOTS! AND YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DID IT!


N-NO! IT CAN'T BE! I, Y-YOU TOLD ME I WAS HELPING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! THAT EVIL SNIVELY WAS CLIMBING DOWN THE ROPE--


HA! LIKE THEY SAY, "THERE'S A SUCKER BORN EVERY MINUTE" YOU JUST HAPPENED TO BE COMING ALONG AT THE RIGHT TIME, KIDDO!
PUT THE HEAD BACK ON AND YOU'LL SEE WHAT I MEAN!

EEEEEEEK!

T S HIM! B-BUT THAT S IMPOSSIBLE! T SHOULD BE ME!

AND YOU LOOK LIKE HIM TOO! WHAT S GOING ON?!

WHAT KIND OF TREACHERY IS THIS?

THE BEST KIND-- ROBOTNIK'S!

SEE THESE EYEPIECES? THEY CONTAIN OPTIC IMAGE REFRACTORS. NO MATTER WHO YOU LOOK AT, T APPEARS TO BE SNIVELY.

SO WHEN YOU CUT THE ROPE YOU THOUGHT SNIVELY WAS DANGLING FROM YOU REALLY DROPPED PRINCESS SALLY TO HER DEATH!

HAHAHAAA! YOU WERE EASY TO DUPE SUGAR AND NOW ROBOTNIK WILL REWARD ME WITH A KINGDOM OF MY OWN WHEN HE TAKES OVER MOBIUS!

-CHOKE: NO-NO NO- NOOOO...

FAN ART

SONIC

Christopher Ventura
Age 10

Michael Ventura

Michael Alexander Coconut Creek Age 11

Meghan Tunis Pickney, MI

Michelle "Sparrow" Riese Cincinnati, OH Age 15

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HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD. ANOTHER DRAMA IS ABOUT TO UNFOLD.

A LEGENDARY CRATER SCARS THE ANCIENT PRISTINE LANDSCAPE OF THE LAND KNOWN AS... **DOWNUNDA!**

ONCE HOME TO A MYSTICAL SHAMAN, THE GIANT CAVITY NOW SERVES A VASTLY DIFFERENT PURPOSE.

ONE THAT REEKS OF SUFFERING, DESPAIR AND PALPABLE MALEVOLENCE!

MOVE-- QUICKLY!

HURRY-IT-UP!

HOW DAY-AH YOU MANHANDLE ME THAT WAY! WHY I OUGHTA--

CONTROL YOURSELF BUNNIE! REMEMBAIRE WHAT ZEY SAID WOULD 'APPEN!

INDEED-RABBOT! ANY-ATTEMPT-TO-UTILIZE-YOUR-BIONIC-APPENDAGES-WILL-TRIGGER-YOUR-COLLAR-ALARM!

WHICH-IN-TURN WILL-ACTIVATE-THE-EXPLOSIVE-DEVICE-IN-HIS-COLLAR.

IN-YOU-GO!

OOOF!

UNNGH!

CHINKLE

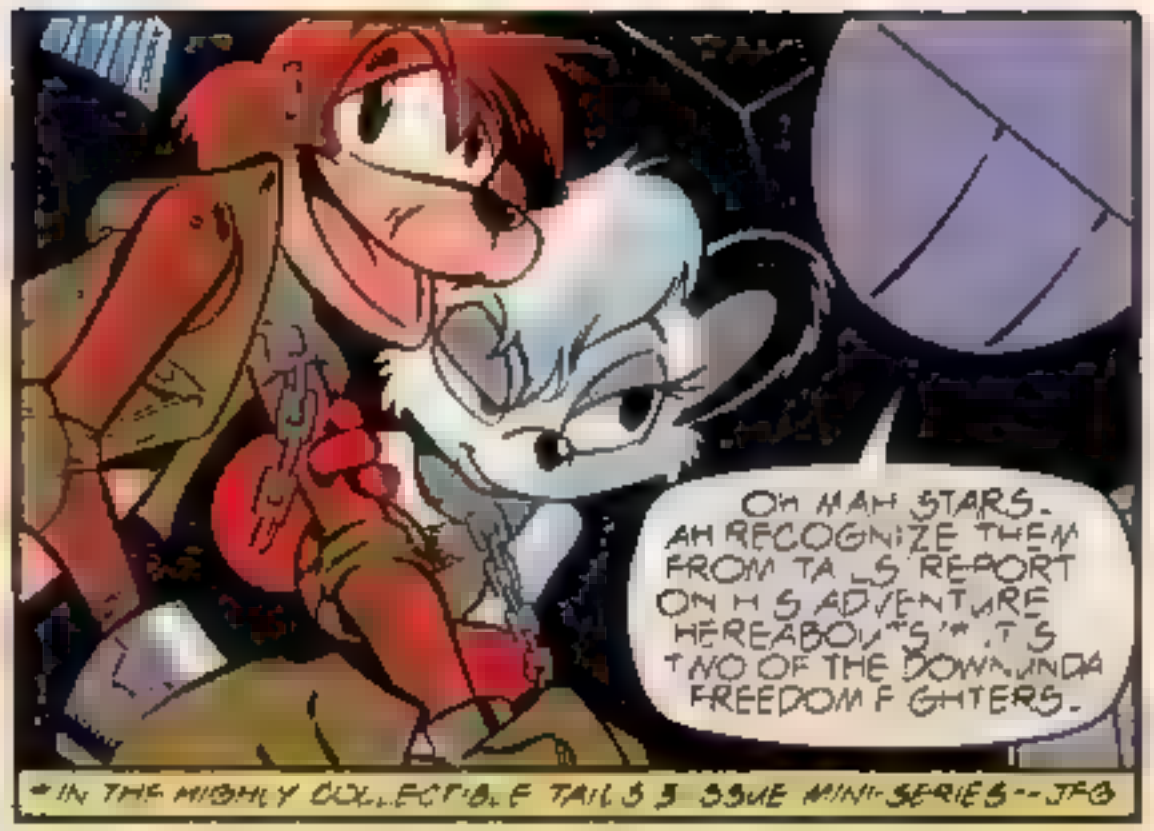
CHAKKLE

DON'T WORRY, SUGAH...AH'LL KEEP MAH COOL--FOR NOW!

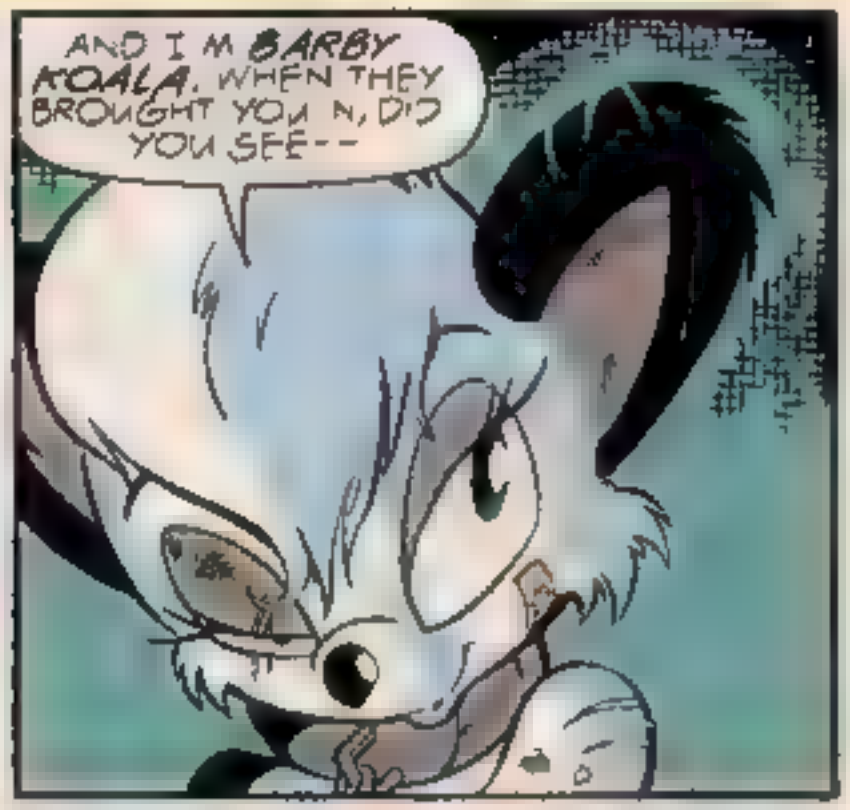
AND-WE'LL-KEEP-YOU-HERE--

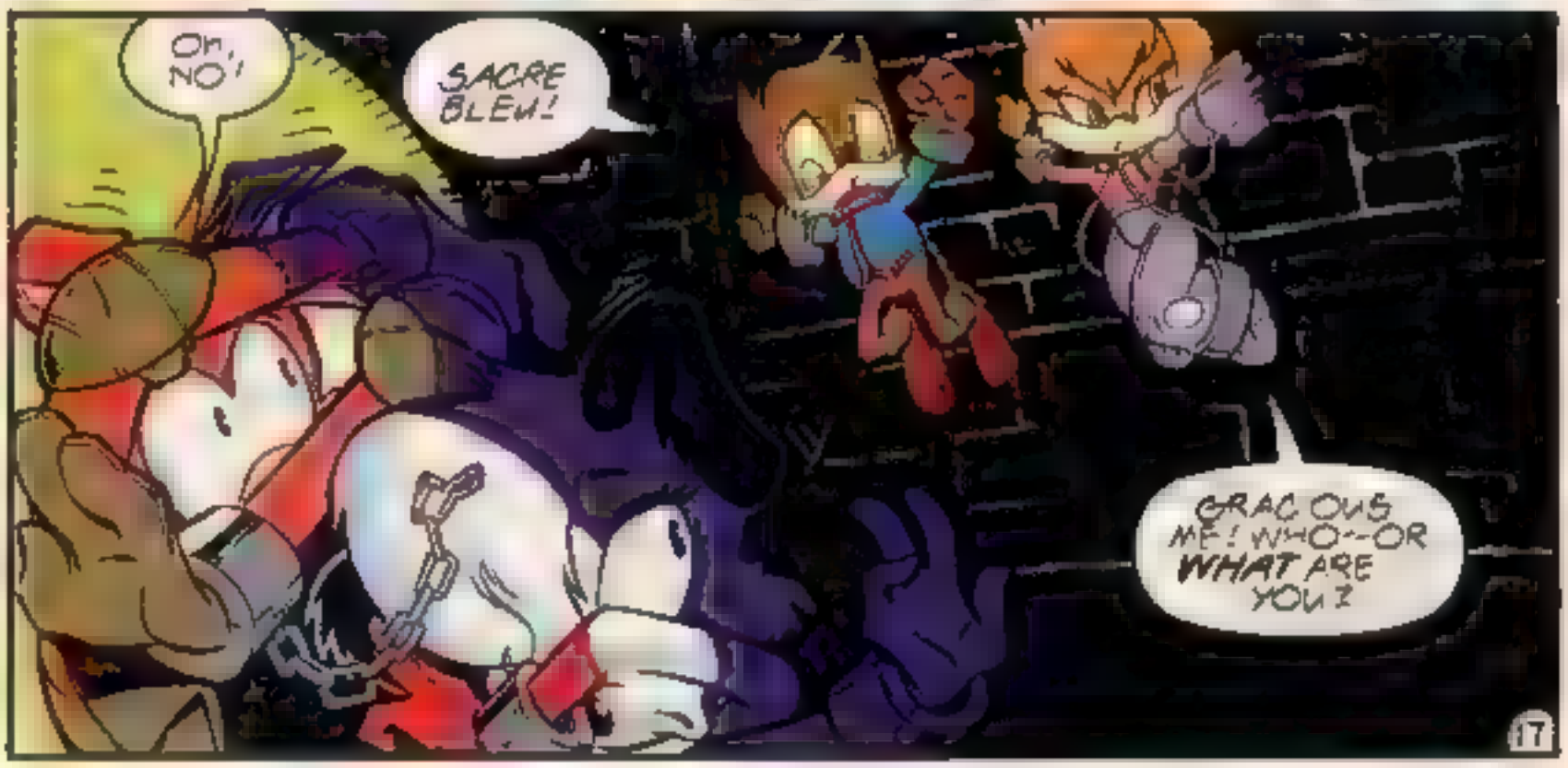
--FOREVER!

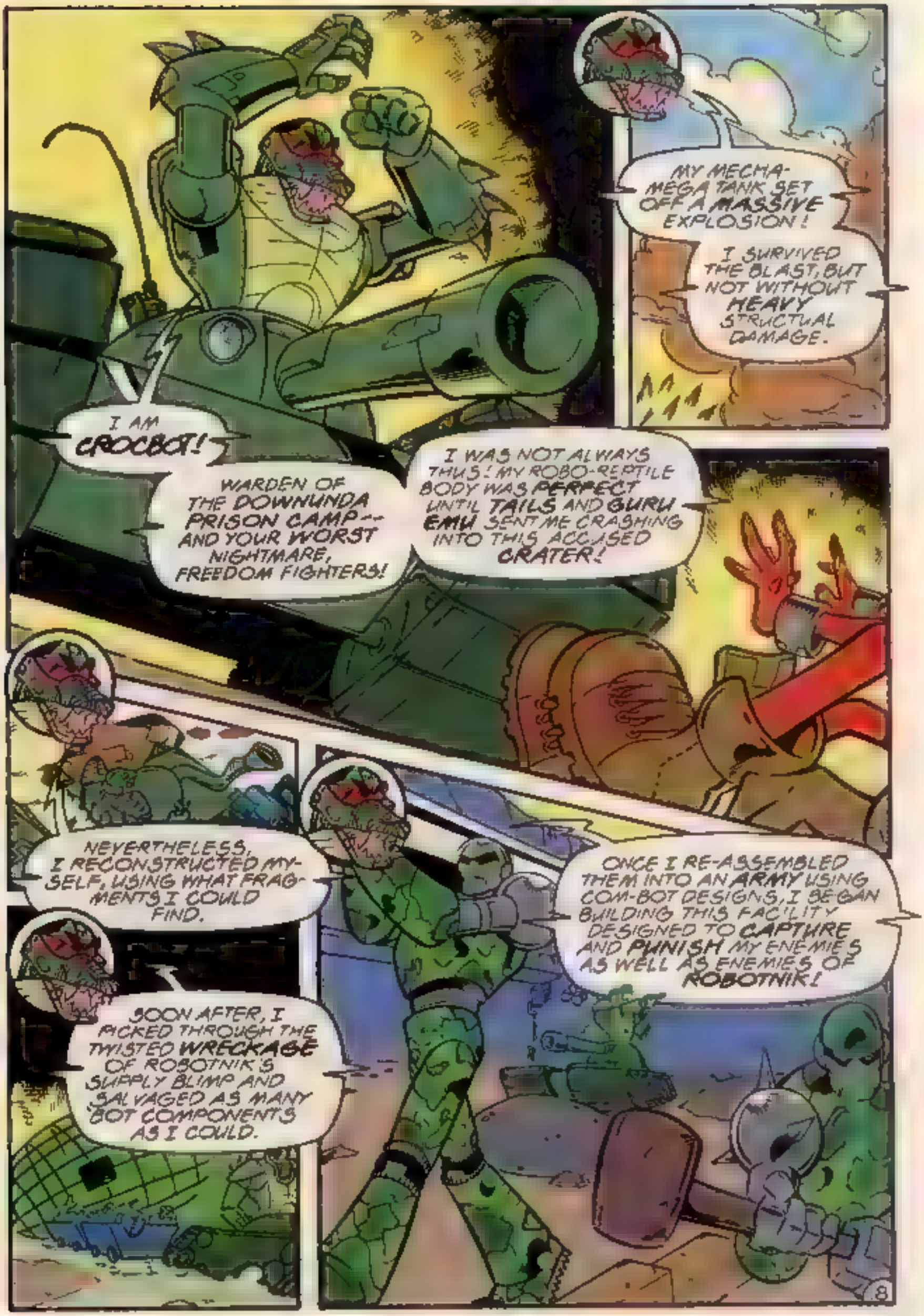
ALORS! SOMEONE EES COMING TOWARDS US!


OH MAH STARS. AH RECOGNIZE THEM FROM TA S REPORT ON H S ADVENTURE HEREABOUTS'* T S TWO OF THE DOWNUNDA FREEDOM F GHTERS.
*IN THE HIGHLY COLLECTIBLE TAILS 3 ISSUE MINI-SERIES--JFB

YES KOFF. KOFF! I M WALT WALLABEE...


AND I M BARBY KOALA. WHEN THEY BROUGHT YOU IN, DID YOU SEE--


OH, NO!
SACRE BLEU!
GRACIOUS ME! WHO--OR WHAT ARE YOU?


MY MECHA-MEGA TANK SET OFF A MASSIVE EXPLOSION!
I SURVIVED THE BLAST, BUT NOT WITHOUT HEAVY STRUCTUAL DAMAGE.
I AM CROCBOT!
WARDEN OF THE DOWNUNDA PRISON CAMP-- AND YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE, FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
I WAS NOT ALWAYS THUS! MY ROBO-REPTILE BODY WAS PERFECT UNTIL TAILS AND GURU EMU SENT ME CRASHING INTO THIS ACCUSED CRATER!
NEVERTHELESS, I RECONSTRUCTED MYSELF, USING WHAT FRAGMENTS I COULD FIND.
SOON AFTER, I PICKED THROUGH THE TWISTED WRECKAGE OF ROBOTNIK'S SUPPLY BLIMP AND SALVAGED AS MANY BOT COMPONENTS AS I COULD.
ONCE I RE-ASSEMBLED THEM INTO AN ARMY USING COM-BOT DESIGNS, I BEGAN BUILDING THIS FACILITY DESIGNED TO CAPTURE AND PUNISH MY ENEMIES AS WELL AS ENEMIES OF ROBOTNIK!

AT THE TOP OF MY LIST WERE THE DOWNUNDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHOM WE SUCCESSFULLY AM-BUSHED AND CAPTURED!

I HAVE SINCE TAKEN GREAT DELIGHT IN TORTURING THEM MERCILESSLY!

A HOBBY OF MINE THAT YOU TWO WILL SOON GET TO EXPE-RIENCE FIRST HAND!

MEANWHILE, FEEL FREE TO RUE THE DAY YOU EVER CROSSED PATHS WITH CROCBOT! HAW HAW HAW!

CLANG

EES THERE ANY CHANCE FOR ESCAPE OR RESCUE?

AND WHEN I SEND YOUR RAGGED REMAINS BACK TO YOUR FRIEND TAILS I TRUST HE'LL COME BY FOR A VISIT. I OWE THAT FURRY FREAK BIG TIME!

I'M AFRAID NOT... THIS CAMP'S LOCATION IS TOP SECRET.

(sniffle) IT'S HOPELESS...

EEEP EEEP EEEP

DON'T WORRY, SUGAH, WE'LL COME UP WITH A PLAN TO ESCAPE...

...AH HOPE!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE, SONIC... TIME TO RISE AND SHINE

Hmmmmm-- JUZ GIMME TWO MORAINUTZZZ...

THERE IT IS-- THE **FLOATING ISLAND!** HOPE WE GET A BETTER WELCOME THAN **LAST** TIME.*

*DARCY'S TALKING ABOUT SONIC VS KNUCKLES BATTLE ROYAL ON SALE NOW!--JFB

HUH? WHAT THE--?

NO ONE VISITS THIS ISLAND **WITHOUT** THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF ITS GUARDIAN **KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!**

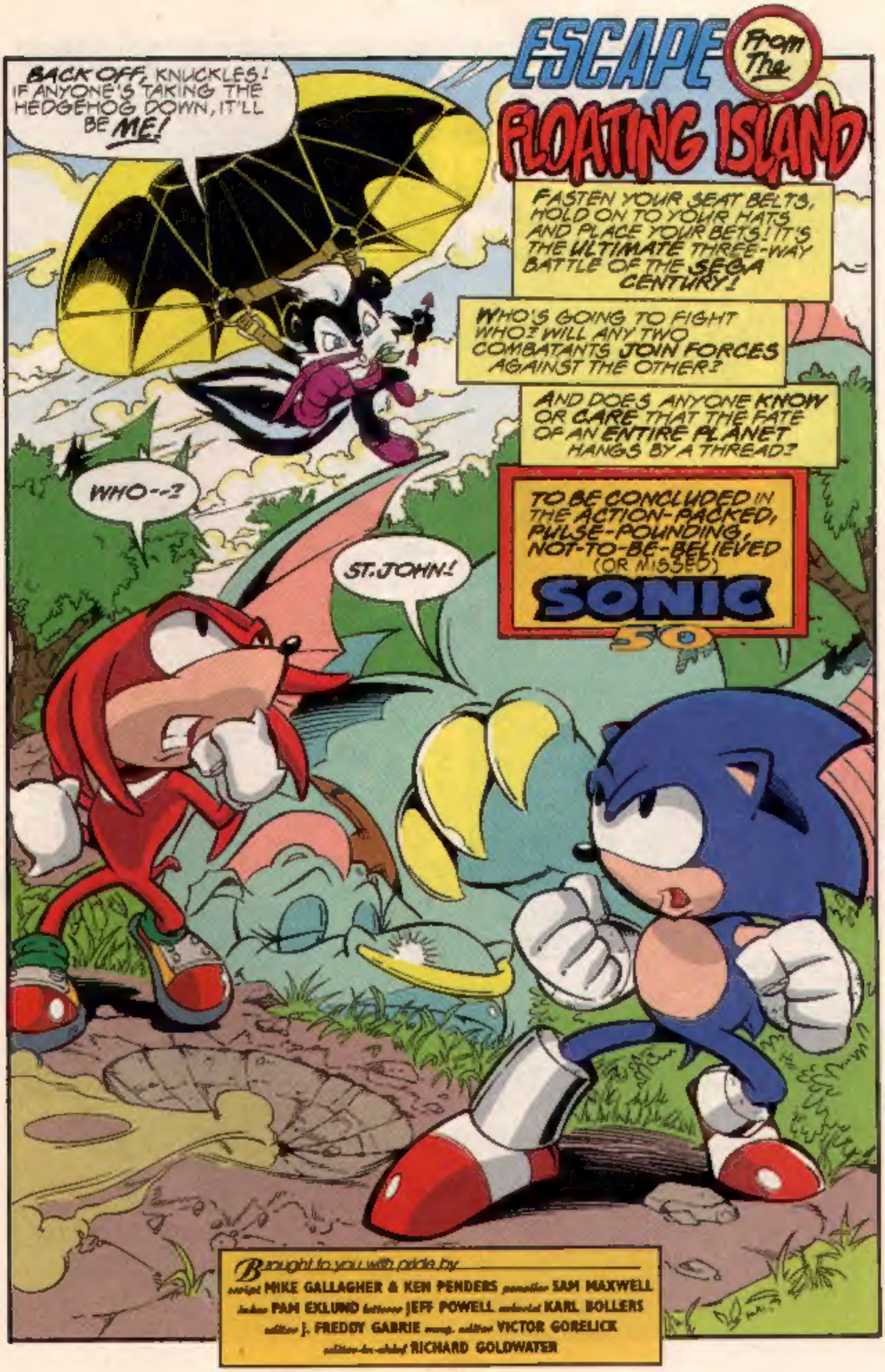
UGGGH!

THOK

I MIGHT'VE KNOWN YOU'D **ATTACK** THE SWEETEST, MOST GENTLE CREATURE ON THE PLANET FOR **NO** REASON BRAIN-DEAD REDHEAD.

OH, YEAH--? WELL, YOU'RE **NEXT!**

KAPOW!
NOT F I WHACK YOU FIRST, FCH ONERD.
GLARRG!
WHUMP
RIGHT BACK AT YOU, SPINESWINE!
HOOOMPH!
THAT DOES - - - I GONNA HIT YO! SO HARD, - - - HURT YOUR WHOLE FAMILY!
BAH I STEO OVER PUNKS - RE YOU TO GET TO A REAL FIGHT-- C MON
CHUKADOOOOM


ESCAPE From The FLOATING ISLAND
BACK OFF, KNUCKLES! IF ANYONE'S TAKING THE HEDGEHOG DOWN, IT'LL BE ME!
FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS, HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS AND PLACE YOUR BETS! IT'S THE ULTIMATE THREE-WAY BATTLE OF THE SEGA CENTURY!
WHO'S GOING TO FIGHT WHO? WILL ANY TWO COMBATANTS JOIN FORCES AGAINST THE OTHER?
AND DOES ANYONE KNOW OR CARE THAT THE FATE OF AN ENTIRE PLANET HANGS BY A THREAD?
WHO--?
ST. JOHN!
TO BE CONCLUDED IN THE ACTION-PACKED, PULSE-POUNDING, NOT-TO-BE-BELIEVED (OR MISSED)
SONIC 50
Brought to you with pride by
MIKE GALLAGHER & KEN PENDERS
SAM MAXWELL
PAM EKLUND
JEFF POWELL
KARL BOLLERS
J. FREDDY GABRIE
VICTOR GORELICK
RICHARD GOLDWATER

SONIC PIN-UP
by
Nelson Ribeiro
Harvey Mercadoocasio

SONIC-GRAMS

J. Freddy Gaiarte
Editor

THIS JUST IN!

NEXT ISSUE IS THE BIG FIVE-O!!!

Which is why it's fitting that it should be called **"The Big Goodbye!"** This one is everything you expect a **fiftieth issue** to be. The **ultimate conclusion** to the ultimate storyline in **Sonic mythos.** Who will **Knuckles** help: **Sonic or St. John?** Will **Knothole Village** be enslaved forever? How will the rest of **The Freedom Fighters** deal with current events? What is **Robotnik's** next move? Expect all this and more. **Plus:** The showdown you've been waiting for... **Sonic Vs. Robotnik,** once and for all the marbles. **This special issue sports a computer-rendered cover and hosts almost every single writer and artist who EVER worked on Sonic.** You heard it here first! **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #50 on sale June '97.**

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #50
On sale JUNE 1997!

Because you, the fans, have demanded it: **KNUCKLES: THE DARK LEGION three-issue mini-series has graduated to ongoing status beginning with issue #4! KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #4** presents a new chapter in the life of everyone's favorite echidna. "LOST PARADISE" reunites him with the one person he never expected to see, and presents him with an even bigger problem as the fabled city of Echidnaopolis reappears, posing a threat to The Floating Island's ecosystem! **On sale late May '97!** Continuing in the tradition of the first three issues, every three-issue story-arc will have a **triple-combo cover collection.** More about this next month!

KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA #4
On sale MAY 1997!

Freddy

P.S.: Also in KNUCKLES #4 is the Knuckles' **"Name the Letters Page" contest.** Check it out, enter and win!

SEND LETTERS TO
SONIC-GRAMS #49
C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
e-mail address: SonicNotes@ aol.com

Because of limited space, the editors cannot guarantee that all correspondence will be published and reserve the right to edit messages as they see fit.

Dear Sonic- Grams,

I'm dropping you a line to give you my compliments on the series lately. I really enjoy the way the stories seem to carry over more from one issue to the next, no longer limiting themselves to one issue. Especially since King Acorn's return.

I'd like to point out that I'm twenty-three years old and a dedicated reader. While I do understand that you have many, many young readers... there are also many older readers like myself who read SONIC and KNUCKLES month after month. Just thought you'd like to know.

Brian King
Whitmire, SC

Oh, mah stars and garters. It's little ol' me... Bunnie Rabbot. The Downunda Freedom Fighters and Antoine are comin' up with a plan while ah answer your letters this month. Thanks for your generous compliment, dear sir. Our editorial staff try to keep a loose — what's that word again— continuity goin' in the books since the King's return. Why? Because every issue brings its own little surprises and affects everybody in Mobius month after month.

Dear Sonic,

I watch SONIC on USA Network's Cartoon Express. I have a few questions: 1) Why does Sally kiss you and hug that skunk dude (Geoffrey St. John) in issue #43? 2) In SONIC QUEST #3, you used Silver Sonic's robot body to fight Robotnik. How is that possible when you fried it? 3) What is Dr. Robotnik's first name: Ivo or Julian? 4) If the Floating Island has only one chaos emerald, how could Robotnik steal two emeralds in the SONICQUEST series? I gotta' buz', cuz'!

Steven Cash
Oxford, NC

Hey Sugah, what's shakin'? 1) Ah don't like St. John any more than you do... but you gotta' admit he's a hunk and a half. 2)As far as ah know, Sonic fried Silver Sonic's memory banks, deleting its programming to hurt Sonic and turned it on Robotnik. 3) Robotnik's first name is Julian. Ivo is his family name who he now uses as his first after adopting the name Robotnik. 4) In SUPER SONIC VS. HYPER KNUCKLES #1, Knuckles got a second emerald he keeps as a spare.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

First I'd like to congratulate Spaz and Manny Galan on the awesome artwork and Harvo on the incredible inks. Question: 1) Is Sally's mom dead? 2) Did Carl Condor make an appearance before SONIC QUEST #1? 3) Is Knuckles ever gonna get his own series? He deserves one. 4) Is Archimedes now a part of the Chaoticas? So until Sally starts going out with Robotnik...

Andrew Shine
Dolton, GA

Even as ah speak, Spaz, Manny and Harvo are makin' their bows of thanks. 1) No, Julayla was Sally's mentor Theatheri. Her cousin Rosie was and at times still thinks she is Sally's nanny. Julayla passed away in SONIC #18. 2) No, that was his first appearance. 3) And Red finally did it. He got his own book. Read the editorial for more details. 4) Ah think so.

Dear Sonic and Co.,

The Death Egg Saga was hilarious! I laughed all the way through, especially the part where Antoine gets lost... and Snivopolis! I thought you guys did a wonderful job. 'Til issue 100!

Kendra "Kat" Kountz
Kflexo

Thanks for your compliment on those issues. It was definitely an interesting experience (except when Sugah-Twan had us going around in circles).

Hey, Team Sonic,

Here it is in a nutshell: Sally should pass away. Whether she comes back or not (you know how comic book death works after all...) is up to you, but you can only avoid real-life topics so long before it gets stale. Anyone who doesn't agree can watch Barney. As for me, I'll still look forward to another issue of Sonic, no matter what. I read it because its a comic book, remember?

Kerri Vines
kicks@gwn.org

Kerri is one opinionated gal ah could look up to. Thanks for sharin' your views with us, sugah.

Check out the next issue. It starts with SONIC and ends with the number fifty. All this and a computer-rendered cover by you know who. You'll be kickin' yourself if ya miss it. So don't. Y'all come back in thirty days, ya' hear?